

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7683

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUZEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USUN NEW YORK 2571

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWAA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 431

EXDIS

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, PERSONS AND QUACKENBUSH, COMMERCE FOR UPTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO PORG

SUBJ: US-ILO RELATIONS: BLANCHARD REQUESTS HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS IN
US

REF: GENEVA 263, STATE 13644

1. SUMMARY. ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD WILL MEET WITH GEORGE
MEANY IN MIAMI ON JAN 29 AND HAS ASKED ME TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT
WITH AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN IN NEW YORK IN ORDER TO GET PUBLIC
INDICATION OF HIGH-LEVEL US INTEREST IN ILO, BLANCHARD ALSO ASKED
ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY
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KISSINGER. BLANCHARD WELCOMED SILBERMAN MISSION FOR

MINISTERIAL LEVEL CONSULTATIONS AND AGAIN INDICATED HE COULD ATTEND EVENING MEETING DEVOTED TO WESTERN STRATEGY IN ILO DURING MAR OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. AT BLANCHARD'S REQUEST LAST WEEK WE MET FOR LUNCH JAN 20 TO DISCUSS HIS TRIP TO THE US JAN 28-FEB 11. BLANCHARD SAID HE WOULD SEE GEORGE MEANY IN MIAMI ON JAN 29 AND HAD APPOINTMENTS WITH SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS AND GENERAL SCOWCROFT. HE ASKED THAT WE ARRANGE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN. IN ORDER TO INDICATE PUBLICLY NEW HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN ILO. HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE CASE FOR US REMAINING IN ILO TO PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY KISSINGER AND TO CABINET LEVEL COMMITTEE ON ILO (CLC). HE SAID THESE MEETINGS WOULD ENABLE HIM TO IMPRESS ILO MEMBERS WITH SERIOUSNESS OF TOP LEVEL US GOVERNMENT INTEREST AND ADDED THAT SOVIETS ALWAYS ASK HIM FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF US POSTURE IN ILO. BLANCHARD ASKED ME HOW HE SHOULD GO ABOUT GETTING THESE APPOINTMENTS. I DID NOT ENCOURAGE HIM ABOUT SEEING THE PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY KISSINGER DURING THIS TRIP. ALTHOUGH IN PRINCIPLE I THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA, I SAID THE TIMING PRESENTS PROBLEMS. I TOLD HIM THAT FROM WHERE I SIT I THOUGHT WASHINGTON WOULD WANT TO SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SILBERMAN MISSION AND THE MARCH GOVERNING BODY SESSION BEFORE ESCALATING FURTHER OUR LEVEL OF INTEREST. BLANCHARD SAID HE COULD MAKE A SPECIAL TRIP FOR MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

3. I TOLD BLANCHARD THE SILBERMAN MISSION REF B WOULD BE UNDERWAY SHORTLY IN ORDER TO FURTHER BRIEF OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS-- AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL--ON US LETTER OF INTENT AND ON US VIEWS ON ILO AS THEY ARE EMERGING FROM CABINET LEVEL COMMITTEE. BLANCHARD WELCOMED THE IDEA OF CONSULTATION AND NOTED THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED THIS SOMETIME AGO. HE FELT US LETTER OF INTENT SELF-EXPLANATORY BUT THAT US POSITION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO EUROPEANS AND OTHER POTENTIAL SUPPORTERS AMONG ILO MEMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AS EXAMPLES OF PRIORITY ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION, HE CITED US POSITION ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNING BODY AND ILO ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ISSUES IN WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE AND "COMMON WESTERN APPROACH" CONFIDENTIAL

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TO WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT. ALTHOUGH CONFLICT BETWEEN OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING AND ILO GOVERNING BODY SESSION IN MARCH SEEMED TO RULE OUT EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION AT THAT TIME, HE RE-ITERATED THAT HE COULD GO TO PARIS FOR AN EVENING SESSION.

4. FOR USUN-BLANCHARD WILL BE ABLE TO SEE AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN IN NEW YORK ON FEB 2-3 OR 9-11. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN WILL BE AVAILABLE.

5. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN TO BRIEF BLANCHARD ON OVERALL US POLICY TOWARD UN AND PARTICULARLY ON STATE OF PLAY OF ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES. AS WASHINGTON AWARE BLANCHARD IS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE SCENARIO WITH ARABS WHICH WOULD DIFFUSE ISRAELI ISSUE AT UPCOMING GOVERNING BODY SESSION AND AT ILO ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN JUNE REF A). THUS, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN SEE HIM, HOWEVER, I CANNOT SEE REAL NEED FOR BLANCHARD MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER OR PRESIDENT FOR AT THIS TIME. BREADTH AN LEVEL OF HIS APPOINTMENTS IN USG STRIKE ME AS BEING APPROPRIATE FOR OUR PURPOSES AND HIS AT THIS TIME.
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